

BEST PRACTICES OF TEACHERS IN TEACHING BIOLOGY

by:

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One of the most interesting branches of science is biology, as it discovers the beauty of life, the value of the individual, and the uniqueness of every species. Teaching biology in Junior High School is indeed quite challenging since not all students like and love to learn science subjects. However, as teachers with heart and passion, these challenges would not stop us to inculcate learning to the learners for them to have a brighter future.

Reformers of scientific education lately pushed for new methods in which students contribute to the expansion of their own biological knowledge in an effort to move toward student-centered learning where students may formulate and solve issues regarding biological systems. Selected teaching techniques for biology classes should support students' biological science knowledge, practice, and learning.

According to Eila Jeronen, Irmeli Palmberg, and Eija Yli-Panula. (2016). Numerous biological subjects call for methods that encourage experimental problem-solving and process-based abilities. Students must possess both essential science topic knowledge and the ability to learn independently because the emphasis is on science investigation procedures and, as a result, is to obtain valuable learning results. Therefore, it's crucial to use teaching strategies that include both instructional and autonomous learning activities, and to alter the degree of experimentation tasks' openness. Problem-based learning and group investigations encourage students to think critically by planning, arguing, stating questions and problems, and providing solutions to environmental problems. Problem-based learning and group investigations have positive effects on students' academic achievements and attitudes toward science courses.

The same is true for Asyari, M., Al Muhdhar, M.H.I., and Ibrohim, S.H. (2016). It was stated that biological field-based activities, such as fieldwork and field trips, give students authentic and interactive experiences and possibilities for experiential learning, which boosts student interest and improves learning. Learning about biological challenges requires active student participation in field-based activities. Students can apply scientific inquiry to examine theories and concepts they have acquired in the classroom while conducting fieldwork to investigate nature and the environment. The performance of students in the biology course is also improved by this practice.

More so, A trend toward a larger emphasis on learner-centered instructional strategies has also been observed in biological education during the past ten years, according to Elkhidir N'(2020) The use of modeling, simulations, interactive learning techniques, computer applications, and educational technology has shifted the emphasis toward cooperative, inquiry-based, and problem-based learning, which considerably aids in the understanding of complicated biological processes.

Therefore, integration of modern technology uses various teaching strategies, engaging students in science laboratories, and making classes, as students centered, are some of the ways to make biology classes active, productive, and successful based on the pertinent literature and study.

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